THE TIMES-VIRGINIAN
PUBLISHED EVERY THURSDAY
IN THE HEART OF VIRGINIA'S DARK TOBACCO BELT
Appomattox, Virginia 24522
ESTABLISHED IN 1892

W. Lloyd Vaughan ..... Publisher and Editor
Beck Hudson ..... News Editor

Entered as second-class matter at the Post Office at Appomattox, Virginia, under the Act of Congress of March 3, 1879.

Address all correspondence to **The Times-Virginian**, Appomattox, Virginia 24522

Subscription rates: $5.00 a year in Amherst, Appomattox, Buckingham, Campbell, Charlotte, Nelson and Prince Edward Counties, elsewhere $6.00, payable in advance.
Member: Virginia Press Association

Single Copy 15 cents

The Pastor Speaks

GOD'S CALL

As in the days of old, and the many generations past; God is still tenderly calling today for whomsoever will to come unto Him.

Our people at Rocks are in the midst of a revival. God is speaking to hearts and lives for a change and a renewal. Some have heard - some continue to hear - some are responding.

If God were to telephone you today would you accept the charges or simply hang up?

As a young lad many years ago, I remember an old favorite hymn of mine, "The Royal Telephone". I remember so well the first verse: Central's never "busy", always on the line; you may talk to heaven almost any time; Tis a royal service, free for one and all - when you get in trouble, give this royal line a call.

God called Isaiah. He answered. "Here am I, Lord, send me . . . (Isaiah 6:8)." God called twelve lowly disciples by only saying, "Follow me."

There are many trials and tribulations that threaten to tangle up the line of communication. If you are in tune with God and have an open line to Him through prayer, fellowship, and love - - - "Ye shall ask anything in My name, I will do it."

God's promise is sure. His line is always open. There is no danger of Him "reversing the charges."

Yet, some people tell God He has the "wrong number." They don't need Him today - - - maybe tomorrow. Others are too pre-occupied with the world and give Him a "busy signal." One fact is certain - - - - guaranteed. You can never say: "But God did not call me." He did one day, but you either were too busy or were not at home.

If the telephone rang, and God wanted to talk to you would you be ready?

"Today if ye will hear His voice, harden not your hearts." (Heb. 4:7)

Rev. Don Wagner, Pastor
Rocks Baptist Church
Pamplin, Va. 23958

The Sunday School Lesson

Comments By Herbert C. Bradshaw

Lesson For October 26, 1975

Attempting Self-Sufficiency
Genesis 25:19-34; 27:29

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and do not rely on your own insight.

A widely prevalent contemporary situation has an ancient counterpart in the family of Isaac. The mother Rebekah and her sons, Esau and Jacob, undertook to live not only in self-sufficiency but to order developments to their personal desires and advantage without consideration of others. When Jacob saw an opportunity to get a coveted inheritance, he promptly took advantage of his brother's weakness. When Rebekah wanted to gain the paternal blessing intended for the older son for her favorite, she deceived her husband and made her younger son her accomplice. It is not a pretty picture of a home and family, but it has been duplicated countless times.

Yet this was the family which God had chosen for a special mission, to make His name known and reverenced in the world, the family God selected to be the principal agent in preparing the world spiritually for the coming of the Redeemer. When we look at the scene from the human side, it is indeed a sorry one. Such rivalry, hatred, deceit, and selfishness as prevailed in Isaac's family would create no circumstances favorable to God among those who observed it.

Viewed from another aspect, the scene is Isaac's family shows us that God does use sinful, weak, selfish people to do His work. God takes us in our imperfections and weaknesses and sin and uses us to His glory and to advance His cause in the world. That God does this should encourage everyone. That He does this should not be interpreted, however, as meaning that families of today should allow to exist in them the situation which prevailed in Isaac's family. Paul touched on this when he asked the Christians in Rome, "Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound?" and answered the question, "By no means." Each believer had the obligation to work diligently to keep sin and selfishness out of his life but not to excuse himself from working for God because he makes mistakes and commits sin.

An adage developed in the course of history holds that "God uses the wrath of men to serve Him." How God would have accomplished His purpose in Isaac's family under different conditions we do not know. But there would have been a wholesome, happier family life if the members of the family had allowed God to work out His purpose among them in His way.

In the divine order and election, the covenant with Abraham was to be transmitted through Jacob. Rebekah and Jacob may not at that time have been aware of this. The naturally selfish and ambitious Jacob wanted the birthright of the elder son because it would give him a double portion of Isaac's wealth and headship of the family when his father died. So when Esau, who lived for himself and the moment, came in hungry from hunting, Jacob bought the birthright with a meal - bread and pottage of lentils (a thick red soup made by boiling the lentil plant with its leaves and pods). With the birthright, which was material, went the father's blessing, which was spiritual. Rebekah saw to it that Jacob received the blessing also. Deceitfulness must have been a trait in Rebekah's family, since her brother Laban deceived Jacob in giving him Leah as wife instead of Rachel.

To save Jacob from Esau's anger and vindictiveness, Rebekah sent Jacob to her brother Laban in Haran, but to get Isaac's permission for him to go, she did not tell the full reason. What she told was convincing enough, that she wanted Jacob to marry in their clan. Esau had married two Hittite women, who "made life bitter for Isaac and Rebekah" and provide another ancient counterpart to a contemporary condition.

God's purpose was carried out through the ungodly conduct of this family. Not all through whom He works to accomplish His purposes may be aware of it. Certainly Alexander the Great did not realize that He was God's agent in his conquests. Yet these conquests gave the Western world a cultural unity and a common language to facilitate the spread of the gospel of the Savior. Nor did the Romans, as they made the Mediterranean world an empire, realize that God would use the political unity they gave the West to aid in spreading the gospel.

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Letter To The Editor

Mr. Lloyd Vaughan, Editor
The Times-Virginian
Appomattox, Va. 24522
Dear Lloyd:

I would like to use this means to thank everyone who took part in another very successful Bike-A-Thon this past Sunday.

The total amount pledged was $2047.35.

All credit goes to those 45 adventurous riders and their generous sponsors from all over Appomattox County.

Miss Claudia Gordon was our very fine 1975 Celebrity Kick-Off Chairman and she deserves our gratitude and praise. Her enthusiastic response and assistance throughout the entire campaign was outstanding.

I also wish to express my thanks to the Pepsi Cola Company, Kings and Traveler's Inn Motel for donating the drinks and to the Appomattox Unit, American Cancer Society board members for donating cookies and their time Sunday at all checkpoints.

It was a grand day - perfect for bike riding. It goes to show you can combine fun enjoying our beautiful countryside and working to assist an extremely important and worthwhile cause.

All funds will be used toward research and service by the American Cancer Society who motto is "To Wipe Out Cancer In Your Lifetime".

This Bike-A-Thon and these funds can make this come true.

I am truly proud and grateful for all you have done.

Sincerely,
Clyde G. O'Brien, President
Appomattox County Unit
American Cancer Society

Oct. 20, 1975
Mr. Lloyd Vaughan, Editor
The Times-Virginian
Appomattox, Va. 24522
Dear Mr. Vaughan,

The Parade Committee of the 1975 Historic Appomattox Railroad Festival would like to express its thanks through your "Letters to the Editor" to the following people who helped with the parade on Sat., Oct. 11:

Mrs. Patricia Torrence, Mr. Cecil B. Tillery, Mr. Jerry Robinson, Mr. Bob Williamson, Mrs. Judy Deavers, Mr. Russell Tomlin, Mrs. Crawford David-son, Mr. E Carter Martin, Mr. Vic Meadows and Mrs. Judy Garrett.

We wish to thank also the Appomattox County Sheriff's Department and the Va. State Police as well as Mr. James Ford. Of course, without the enthusiasm of the community through participation in the parade, this event would not have taken place; therefore, many thanks to those who made the effort and took the time to enter the parade. Recognition also goes to those who worked "behind the scenes" to make it possible for others to be in the parade.

A special thanks to you and Mrs. Beck Hudson for your help and cooperation in the publicty given us in **The Times-Virginian.**

Sincerely,
Martha Ann K. Wilson,
Parade Chairman

Appomattox County Sheriff's Office
Appomattox Town Police
Virginia State Department of Police

Gentlemen:

On behalf of the Town of Appomattox, I thank you for the total effort expended by all three law enforcement Departments listed above especially in the activities of general support, traffic control(vehicular and pedestrian) and in security during our **Third Annual Historic Appomattox Railroad Festival.**

This total effort demonstrated a well coordinated, professionalism of which this community should be appreciative.

Again I thank each of you for your part in insuring the continued success of the Historic Apomattox Railroad Festival.

Thank you,
W. S. Slagle
Town Manager

Dear Mr. Vaughan,

I would like to take this opportunity to express through your newspaper, my most sincere appreciaion to the following Oakville and Spout Spring Ruritan Club members who so diligently worked to organize the lines for the "Cactus Joe Choo-Choo" train featured at our recent Historic Railroad Festival: (Oakville): Carey Carson, Basil Lucado, Rob Lucado, Mike Shafer, Alfred Marsh, Otho W. Martin, Jr., Herbert Richardson, and Roland Smith. (Spout Spring) Franklin Vaughan, Al Reynolds, Norman Ferguson, Bill Shorter, Bob Williamson and Jimmy Bollinger.

I would also like to express my appreciation to the following men who donated their time and efforts to operate the "Safety Belt Convinces" featured also at our festival: George Cheatham, Alton Smith, Carl Deavers, Jimmy Mayberry, and Willie Craft.

It is co-operation from these clubs and others that made our festival this year another very successful one.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Carolyn Thompson
Chrm. of Recreation, Historic Appomattox Railroad Festival

Evergreen

Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wooteon of Fairport, Va., visited Rev. and Mrs. R. T. Smith, Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Stevens visited their parents, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Stevens and Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Owen, of Nathalie, Va., Saturday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Latane Jenkins, of Richmond, Va. visited Mr. and Mrs. Dan Harvey Sunday.

Mrs. C. B. (Juanita) Richmond is a patient in Virginia Baptist Hospital. The 50th wedding anniversary celebration of Mr. and Mrs. Dean Pugh, Sunday afternoon was attended by many friends and relatives from Evergreen.

Mrs. Ruth Carter and cousin of Richmond, Va. was visiting friends here last week.

Rev. and Mrs. David L. Bailey visited Mr. and Mrs. Z. E. Cheatham Sunday afternoon.

Mrs. Lula Farmer and daughter, Miss Mabel Farmer, of Gate City, Va., are visiting this week with Mrs. Clara Garrett and Mrs. Alice Jackson.

Miss Bonnie Paulette and Debra Dixon attended a Retreat at Eagle Eyrie Baptist Assembly this week end.

Mr. and Mrs. Tommy Johnson have returned home to Pineville, Ky. after spending some time at Va. Beach, and here with her parents, Rev. and Mrs. E. M. Terry.

The Crusaders for Christ Sunday School Class of Evergreen Baptist Church entertained the Senior Adults of the Sunday School, Saturday evening in the social hall of the church.

The Crusaders for Christ Class of Evergreen Baptist Church met Monday evening in the home of Mrs. Elaine Stanley of Appomattox.

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6 Year	$1,000 Minimum Deposit	7.75%	8.17%

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...ht right above, President of Local 236 Garment ...ows presenting $100.00 check to Second Lt. ... left above, of the Appomattox County Rescue ...ow that is now in progress. Ladies of Local 236 ...ke your donation now!

...Reminded ...n For ...mittee

...eminded that ...S office is now ...ation for ASC ...mittee election ...R. Ford, Jr., ...Appomattox ...committee en- ...to use this ...common language to facilitate ...candidates in ...ee election.

...tion will be ...from Nov. 21 ...farm voters ...with instruc- ...ot the secret ...ing it to the ...

...farmers are ...ffice as ASCS ...If a farmer ...d information ...ibility require- ...should contact ...office.

...s a petition, ...be careful to ...e of only one ...ratures of a ...to ASC voters ...nominee, and ...the nominee is ...e if elected.

...ontain this ...ntact it, they ...nominated. The ...s should be ...e hand-deli- ...ery ASCSoffice ...28.

...elections are ...ASC voters ...race, color, ...national origin. ...ns that any ...ers with an ...rving fellow ...be an asset to ...tee. For this ...are urged to ...orners of their ...ional producer ...long run from ...concerned team ...bemen in the ...ation of U.S. ...rm programs,

...county has ...munities. The ...communities ...Southside and

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89¢ lb.

Scott Towels
2 Big Rolls 99¢

Medium EGGS
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Garden Fresh Produce:
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19¢ lb.

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Richfood - 24 Oz. Cup
89¢

Ice Cream
Sealtest - all flavors
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with $10.00 Grocery Order or more

Banquet Fried Chicken
$1.99 2 Lb. Box

Grapefruit
Pink & White
8 for $1

Del-Monte Sale
Peaches Halves 29 Oz. Can 59¢
Peaches Sliced 29 Oz. Can 59¢
Fruit Cocktail 17 Oz. Can 2 for 89¢
Yellow Corn 17 Oz. Can 3 for $1.00
Green Beans 16 Oz. Can 3 for $1.00
Chunk Light Tuna 6½ Oz. Can 49¢

Sliced Cheese
Borden's American - 16 Slice 12 Oz.
99¢

Green Cabbage
2 lbs. 29¢

Swift Prem Luncheon Meat 12 Oz. Can 99¢
Potted Meat 3 Oz. Can 5 for $1.00
Vienna Sausage 5 Oz. Can 3 for $1.00
Beef Stew 24 Oz. Can 89¢
Corn Beef Hash 15 Oz. Can 79¢

Charmin Tissue
4 Roll Pkg.
71¢

Tomatoes
lb. 39¢

Gravy & Beef Chunks
Bunker Hill - 15 Oz. Can
97¢

Carrots
2 1 Lb. Bags 39¢
Onions 3 Lb. Bag 59¢
Turnips 2 lbs. 35¢